

Formula from: 285, 283

$$\det A = a_{11}a_{22} - a_{12}a_{21}$$

$$\det \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 4 \end{bmatrix} = 1 \cdot 4 - 2 \cdot 3 = -2$$

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For  $n \geq 2$ , the **determinant** of an  $n \times n$  matrix  $A = [a_{ij}]$  is the sum of  $n$  terms of the form  $\pm a_{1j} \det A_{1j}$ , with plus and minus signs alternating, where the entries  $a_{11}, a_{12}, \dots, a_{1n}$  are from the first row of  $A$ . In symbols,

$$\begin{aligned} \det A &= a_{11} \det A_{11} - a_{12} \det A_{12} + \dots + (-1)^{1+n} a_{1n} \det A_{1n} \\ &= \sum_{j=1}^n (-1)^{1+j} a_{1j} \det A_{1j} \end{aligned}$$

what's that mean?

Idea use recursion or induction to define something for all values of  $n$ .

How to make small matrices from bigger one

$$\det A = \sum_{j=1}^n (-1)^{1+j} a_{1j} \det A_{1j}$$

Generalization:

$$\det A = \sum_{j=1}^n (-1)^{i+j} a_{ij} \det A_{ij}$$

(same value for every  $i$ )

for any fixed  $i$  between 1 and  $n$ .

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -2 & 5 & 0 \\ 2 & 0 & 4 & -1 \\ 3 & 1 & 0 & 7 \\ 0 & 4 & -2 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

then  $A_{32}$  is obtained by crossing out row 3 and column 2,

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & -2 & 5 & 0 \\ 2 & 0 & 4 & -1 \\ 3 & 1 & 0 & 7 \\ 0 & 4 & -2 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

so that

$$A_{32} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 5 & 0 \\ 2 & 4 & -1 \\ 0 & -2 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

2nd col

$$(A_{32})_{12} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

2nd row  
2nd col

$$((A_{32})_{12})_{22} = [2]$$

Base case of the recursive definition  $1 \times 1$  matrix

$$\det [2] = 2$$

How does the definition

$$\det A = \sum_{j=1}^n (-1)^{1+j} a_{1j} \det A_{1j}$$

work for computing  $\det A$ ?

Let suppose  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{4 \times 4}$

$$\begin{aligned} \det A &= \sum_{j=1}^4 (-1)^{1+j} a_{1j} \det A_{1j} \\ &= (-1)^{1+1} a_{11} \det A_{11} + (-1)^{1+2} a_{12} \det A_{12} + (-1)^{1+3} a_{13} \det A_{13} + (-1)^{1+4} a_{14} \det A_{14} \end{aligned}$$

Thus 4 determinants of size  $3 \times 3$   
are needed to find  
1 determinant of size  $4 \times 4$

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$\det A_{11}$  where  $A_{11} \in \mathbb{R}^{3 \times 3}$

Also 3 determinants of size  $2 \times 2$   
are needed to find  
1 determinant of size  $3 \times 3$

Total # of terms in the sum is

$$4 \cdot 3 \cdot 2 = 4!$$

In general to compute determinant of a  $n \times n$  matrix using the definition involves  $n!$  number of terms...

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Theorem: If  $A = LU$  is the LU factorization of  $A$  where  $L$  is lower triangular with 1's on the diagonal and  $U$  is upper triangular (actually the row echelon form of  $A$ ). Then

$\det A =$  product of the terms on the diagonal of  $U$ .

$$\det A = 2(-3)(4)(6) = -144$$

24
$\times 6$
144

$$L = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 2 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 3 & 4 & 1 & 0 \\ -6 & 5 & 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$U = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 3 & 4 & 8 \\ 0 & -3 & 6 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 4 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 6 \end{bmatrix}$$

where did these numbers come from

To find  $U$  we did row operations

$$\begin{cases} r_2 \leftarrow r_2 - \alpha_{21} r_1 \\ r_3 \leftarrow r_3 - \alpha_{31} r_1 \\ r_4 \leftarrow r_4 - \alpha_{41} r_1 \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{cases} r_3 \leftarrow r_3 - \alpha_{32} r_2 \\ r_4 \leftarrow r_4 - \alpha_{42} r_2 \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{cases} r_4 \leftarrow r_4 - \alpha_{43} r_3 \end{cases}$$

$$L = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \alpha_{21} & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ \alpha_{31} & \alpha_{32} & 1 & 0 \\ \alpha_{41} & \alpha_{42} & \alpha_{43} & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Then  $LU = A$  where  $U$  is the row  
echelon form of  $A$   
made by the elimination  
steps

Suppose  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 3 & 5 & 8 \\ 0 & -1 & 2 & 7 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 & 9 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$

upper left

$$\det A = \sum_{j=1}^n (-1)^{i+j} a_{ij} \det A_{ij}$$

set  $i=4$

$$= (-1)^{4+1} a_{41} \det A_{41} + (-1)^{4+2} a_{42} \det A_{42} + (-1)^{4+3} a_{43} \det A_{43} + (-1)^{4+4} a_{44} \det A_{44}$$

$$\det A = 4 \det \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 3 & 5 \\ 0 & -1 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 \end{bmatrix} = 4 \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\det \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 3 & 5 \\ 0 & -1 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 \end{bmatrix} = (-1)^{3+1} a_{31} \det(\dots) + (-1)^{3+2} a_{32} \det(\dots)$$

$$+ (-1)^{3+3} a_{33} \det(\dots)$$

only this survives

$$= 3 \det \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 3 \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix} = 3 \cdot 2 \cdot (-1)$$

Therefore

product along the diagonal

$$\det A = 4 \cdot (3 \cdot 2 \cdot (-1)) = -24$$